

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 074112

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, XF, UN

SUBJECT: NIGHT REACH - US PROCUREMENT ASSISTANCE FOR UNEF

REF: USUN 932 (NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE CAREFULLY REVIEWED US RECORD OF ASSISTANCE TO ESTABLISHMENT OF UNEF IN LIGHT OF POINTS MADE REFTEL. WE BELIEVE US ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO UN REQUESTS HAVE BEEN QUICK AND FORTHCOMING IN NEARLY EVERY INSTANCE, AND WE CONCUR IN USUN'S OBSERVATION THAT US MILITARY RESPONSE HAS BEEN FAR BEYOND CALL OF DUTY.

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2. IN REGARD TO TWO CASES (UN ASSIST REQUESTS 73-15 AND

73-20) WHERE THERE HAVE BEEN PROBLEMS, MOST OF THE VEHICLES REQUESTED WILL HAVE BEEN LOCATED, PROCESSED, PAINTED, SHIPPED, AND WILL HAVE ARRIVED IN MIDDLE EAST WITHIN DELIVERY TIMES ORIGINALLY SPECIFIED ONCE WE AND THE UN HAD AGREED ON AVAILABILITY AND PRICE. ONLY A PORTION OF THESE ORDERS WILL NOT ARRIVE IN MIDDLE EAST IN DELIVERY TIME SPECIFIED, AND IT IS WITH REGARD TO THESE ALSO THAT INFORMATION COULD HAVE BEEN BETTER. DELAY HAS OCCURRED PRIMARILY ON UN REQUESTS (IN BOTH 73-15 AND 73-20) FOR 3/4 TON TRUCKS, AN ITEM NO LONGER IN GENERAL USE AND AVAILABLE ONLY IN TAIWAN.

3. THE FACTS ON THESE TWO ASSIST REQUESTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. 73-15: ALTHOUGH REQUEST WAS ORIGINALLY DATED NOVEMBER 20, 1973, THE UN PUT A HOLD ON THIS ORDER AND DID NOT FORMALLY ORDER THESE VEHICLES UNTIL DECEMBER 21, 1973. WE CONFIRMED COST AND AVAILABILITY ON JANUARY 18, 1974, AND UN ACCEPTED US OFFER ON JANUARY 23, 1974. SOME 35 OF THESE VEHICLES ARRIVED IN MIDDLE EAST BY MARCH 10, ONLY 45 DAYS AFTER THE UN ACCEPTED OUR OFFER, THE REMAINING 40 WERE SHIPPED FROM TAIWAN ON MARCH 16, VIA THE PANAMA CANAL, WITH AN ETA ON EAST COAST OF US OF LATE APRIL. TRANSHIPMENT TO THE MIDDLE EAST MAY TAKE ANOTHER 3 WEEKS UNLESS WE CAN ARRANGE FOR THE UN TO TAKE POSSESSION AT SOME OTHER PORT ALONG THE WAY AND FOR THE UN -- AS IT HAS DONE BEFORE -- TO ARRANGE ITS OWN SHIPPING AT THE HIGHER RATES IT IS ABLE TO PAY. OUR INFORMATION ON THESE VEHICLES HAS BEEN SLOW IN COMING, BUT LOOKING BACK OVER THE RECORD, IT APPEARS TO US THEY COULD NOT HAVE BEEN LOCATED, PROCESSED, AND SHIPPED ANY FASTER THAN HAS ACTUALLY BEEN DONE.

B. 73-20: UN REQUEST, DATED DECEMBER 14, 1973, WAS FOR 275 VEHICLES IN 9 DIFFERENT CATEGORIES. FOLLOWING CLARIFICATION OF THE UN REQUEST ON DECEMBER 31, USUN INFORMED UN ON JANUARY 15, 1974, OF AVAILABILITIES, SHIPPING, AND COST DATA, ESTIMATING DELIVERY AT 60-90 DAYS FROM THE UN'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE OFFER AND INDICATING THAT 62 VEHICLES, IN 2 CATEGORIES, WERE NOT AVAILABLE.
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THE UN CONFIRMED ITS WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT THE US OFFER ON JANUARY 18, 1974 AND FURTHER MODIFIED THIS ACCEPTANCE ON JANUARY 28. AS OF APRIL 1, 158 VEHICLES, IN 6 CATEGORIES, HAD EITHER BEEN SHIPPED OR OFFERED FOR SHIPMENT, WITH ETA IN MIDDLE EAST WITHIN THE 90-DAY PERIOD PREVIOUSLY SPECIFIED. OF THE REMAINING VEHICLES, DOD IS STILL ATTEMPTING TO GET SHIPPING INFO ON 37 3/4 TON VEHICLES BEING SHIPPED FROM TAIWAN AND HAS JUST RECEIVED UN AC-

CEPTANCE OF 18 WATER TRUCKS.

4. FINALLY, WE UNDERSTAND LIU'S COMMENTS IN PARA 8 OF REFEL WERE IN ERROR AND THAT NO SUCH ORDERS HAVE BEEN PLACED WITH THE USG.

5. WE AGREE US SHOULD MAINTAIN ITS RECORD OF PROMPT RESPONSE TO UN REQUESTS. AS THE REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY SUPPORT TO THE UNEF GIVES WAY TO A MORE NORMAL LOGISTICS, SUPPORT, WE WILL BE CONSIDERING -- IN CONJUNCTION WITH USUN -- WHAT ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES MIGHT BE MORE APPROPRIATE TO THIS EVOLVING SITUATION. KISSINGER

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